(g)

Class	No. of applications rejected.	Remarks.
Junior Intermediate Class	27	
Senior Intermediate	6*	*One applied too late and the remaining 5 did not furnish the necessary particulars called for relating to their applications.
Junior B. A. (Pass & Honours)	48	
Senior B. A.	...	

Ryots' Roads in Kottayam Taluk.

142. **MR. K. K. THOMAS** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing:

(*a*) the number and mileage of roads cut by the ryots in the interior portions of the Kottayam taluk;

(*b*) the mileage of such roads taken under maintenance by the Public Works Department; and

(*c*) the roads formerly cut by the Sirkar either by the Maramat or Public Works Department which are abandoned or are not looked after at present?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Nine roads with a total mileage of $14\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

(*b*) Five roads with a total mileage of $8\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

(*c*) None.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): With reference to part (*b*) of the answer, may I know the names of the roads that are taken under maintenance?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am unable to give the information now.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): With regard to part (*b*) itself, I wish to know the date on which these roads were taken under maintenance.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am unable to give that information also at present.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Are the Government aware that the Puthupalli-Puthucherri road has been abandoned, in spite of the fact that the attention of Government has been drawn to the road twice in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government will enquire into the matter.

The Chalakkal Patam Canal.

143. **MR. T. J. MATTHEW** (*Changanachery cum Peermade*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

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[Mr. T. J. Matthew.]

(i) the total amount of money spent on the Chalakkal Patam canal; and

(ii) the length of the line opened and the length of the portion still remaining to be opened?

(*b*) Did the Government make any investigation in regard to the advantages that would accrue to the paddy fields lying to the west of the region in case the proposed canal is opened?

(*c*) If so, what has been the result of the investigation?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) whether the owners of those paddy fields gave an undertaking that they would pay a cess to cover the interest upon the amount Government expend on the concern from the date the canal is opened;

(ii) whether the construction of the canal is now going on; and

(iii) if not, why the work was stopped and when?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) (i) Rs. 14,811-27-0, including land compensation.

(ii) The length of the canal is 6,395 feet. Some excavation was made by way of removing top soil, when solid rock was met with and work was stopped after attempting blasting of some rock. No portion of the canal has so far been cut to the estimated level.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The investigation showed that the cutting of the canal would entail expenditure out of all proportion to the advantages expected.

(*d*) (i) Originally, the ryots interested in the canal had promised to pay a water cess in view of the cost involved. But it was subsequently reported that some of the ryots expressed unwillingness to pay any cess.

(ii) No.

(iii) For the reasons stated, the work was ordered by the Government in 1924 to be stopped for the time being.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Will the Government inform the House at what length of the canal solid rock was met with?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No investigation was made to find out at what portion of the canal there was solid rock. As soon as solid rock was met with, the work was stopped.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Was the cost of blasting the rock estimated?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Are the Government aware that tenders were invited for blasting the rocks?

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes; questions were obtained from some firms for a rock bar exploder for blasting rocks quickly and easily. But it was found that there was no demand for the rubble.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): My question was whether tenders were invited for the purpose of blasting the rocks.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Are the Government aware that Mr. A. Madhavan Pillai, a Vakil of the Changanachery Munsiff's Court, gave a tender for the purpose?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information is not here.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Will the Government be pleased to estimate the cost of blasting?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The estimate itself will become useful only if the work is to be done. The question of taking up the work is dependent upon so many circumstances. The ryots originally agreed to pay enhanced assessment if the canal is opened, but, some of them backed out. So, the work depends upon the willingness of the people also. Therefore, nothing would be gained by estimating the cost of blasting alone.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): How many of the ryots backed out?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The exact number, I am unable to give now. But a number of ryots, who originally agreed to pay enhanced assessment, have now retracted.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Am I to take it that the whole of the ryots backed out?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No; I said a good number of them have backed out.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): May I know what proportion of the whole number turned out to be so unwilling?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that now.

Grant of P. W. D. Contracts for Road-making to local Contractors.

144. MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the inhabitants of the localities traversed by the ryots' roads and other new roads are very anxious to see that those roads are really improved and well maintained?

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